



# Community Sensory and Wildlife Garden

## Community Sensory and Wildlife Garden - August update

A lot has happened since our April newsletter! (you can still see it on the village website under Section 106 Funding – Newsletter One)

In May we had a survey of the whole playing field site carried out by Worcestershire Wildlife Trust to assess existing biodiversity and to recommend enhancements to encourage even more wildlife.

It is amazing to discover how many wildlife species are already inhabiting the playing field and that by making some minor adjustments, such as changes to the grass-cutting regime, sowing wildflower mixes in areas with low footfall and installing bird and bat boxes together with insect hotels, we can vastly increase the attraction of the field to a wide variety of wildlife.

The sensory garden itself will be a major provider of wildlife habitat. In designing the sensory aspects of scent, colour, touch, movement and sound attractive to us humans, we will be using plants which will also be attractive to pollinators and plants whose leaves and stems will provide hunting grounds for invertebrates and small mammals. Also, we will be encouraging birds, hedgehogs, frogs and insects to linger in the garden by installing bird boxes, bug hotels, a stumpery and a hibernacula to provide places where they can shelter. We aim to provide a green corridor for wildlife by linking the garden to existing nearby hedges in the field through sensitive planting and new hedging where appropriate.

We are also looking at ways in which we can collect and safely store water to use in the garden. Even though we plan to use as many drought tolerant plants as we can, there will always be those which need a little extra, and water will be needed to help all plants become established after planting.

If you would like to see our preliminary design for the garden, please visit the Team Triangle website – Section 106 Funding) or have a look on the back of the Parish Council notice board or in the pavilion window.

Now that we have given you a flavour of our plans, we would be delighted to hear your thoughts and suggestions. Please email [cuts106play@gmail.com](mailto:cuts106play@gmail.com) or fill in a postcard at The Village Stores.